



South Carolina Department of Insurance

Capitol Center
1201 Main Street, Suite 1000
Columbia, South Carolina 29201

NIKKI R. HALEY
Governor

RAYMOND G. FARMER
Director

Mailing Address:
P.O. Box 100105, Columbia, S.C. 29202-3105
Telephone: (803) 737-6160

MEDIA RELEASE

May 20, 2015
For Immediate Release

Contact: Ann Roberson
Phone: 803-737-6207

Coastal Property Insurance Marketplace Annual Public Information Session and Public Hearing

Columbia, SC – As we prepare for Hurricane Season 2015, we encourage all South Carolinians to review their insurance policies and prepare for the upcoming storm season. “Hurricane season begins June 1st and continues until November 30th. Everyone should take this time to review their insurance policies, review or create a home inventory and update their family emergency plans”, advises Ray Farmer, Director of the South Carolina Department of Insurance. To assist residents with their plans, The South Carolina Department of Insurance is hosting the annual public information session and hearing regarding the status of the coastal property insurance market. The session and hearing will be held on Thursday, May 28, 2015 from 5:30- 7:30 p.m. in Buyer Auditorium at Mark Clark Hall located on the grounds of The Citadel.

This year the meeting agenda will include annual updates regarding the status of the South Carolina Wind and Hail Underwriting Association, information and data regarding the 2015 storm forecast, and information to help consumers save money with regard to their insurance related costs. Expert financial planners and representatives from the South Carolina Department of Revenue will present information about the various mechanisms in place to include Catastrophe Savings Accounts and tax-mitigation credits for retrofit materials and measures. Additionally, the meeting will include an update regarding the recent changes to The National Flood Insurance Program. “The evening’s presentations will include important information from experts in their fields of study and we encourage residents to join us in learning about these money saving measures,” Director Farmer said. South Carolina Department of Insurance representatives will also be available to assist consumers with their insurance related questions.

As you prepare for the season, it is also a good time to compare coverage and prices to determine the best value. Your insurance agent should be able to assist you with a comparison. The South Carolina Department of Insurance has staff on-hand to assist as well. Questions concerning coverage issues should be directed to the South Carolina Department of Insurance Market Assistance Program by calling Joseph McDonald, the Department’s Coastal Consumer Liaison at 1-843-577-3415 or via e-mail, jmcdonald@doi.sc.gov. Consumers may also visit the Department’s website, www.doi.sc.gov for more information.

Following the meeting, a public input session and hearing will be held from 7:00-7:30 p.m. All public comments will be limited to five minutes. Members of the public interested in making

comments must sign up by 5:00 p.m. May 27, 2015. You may sign up by e-mailing Ann Roberson at aroberson@doi.sc.gov. Written comments may be submitted until June 27, 2015.

**WHAT: South Carolina Department of Insurance Coastal Property Insurance Marketplace
Annual Information Session and Public Hearing**

**WHEN: Thursday, May 28, 2015
5:30 7:00 p.m. Information Session
7:00- 7:30 p.m. Public Input Session and Hearing**

**WHERE: Buyer Auditorium
Mark Clark Hall
The Citadel, the Military College of South Carolina
171 Moultrie Street, Charleston, SC 29409**

For additional information please contact Ann Roberson via phone, 803-737-6207 or e-mail, aroberson@doi.sc.gov .

###